

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-11 NSAE-00 PA-04

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SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

USNMR SHAPE

USLO SACLANT

CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 0639

E.O. 11652: GDS-12-31-82

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: 4 FEBRUARY NPG STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: (A) USNATO 0574; (B) USNATO 0504; (C) USNATO 0560

SUMMARY: AT NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) MEETING ON AFTERNOON FEB 4, SG CHAIR-
MAN

RAISED POSSIBLE FOLLOW-ON ACTION TO PERMREPS DISCUSSION OF MODI-
FICATIONS TO US STRATEGIC POLICY. INTRODUCTION OF THIS SUBJECT

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IN SG WAS CONTRARY TO CONCLUSION REACHED AT PERMREPS MEETING
THAT SYG LUNS WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH RUMSFELD BEFORE FURTHER CONSULTA-

TIVE STEPS WERE TAKEN. IS HAS NOW AGREED TO TAKE NO FURTHER

INITIATIVE IN SG ON THIS MATTER, UNTIL LUNS AND RUMSFELD HAVE DISCUSSED MATTER. SG ALSO DISCUSSED A DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT ON NPG STUDY ON DUPLICATION OF NEW WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY AND DATES FOR SPRING NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING.
END SUMMARY.

1. AS REPORTED IN REF (A), PARA 17, SYG LUNS CONCLUDED THE NPG PERMREPS MEETING OF 4 FEBRUARY BY AGREEING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ME CONCERNING FURTHER CONSULTATION STEPS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN IN NATO ON THE MODIFICATIONS TO U.S. STRATEGIC POLICY. NONETHELESS, AT THE NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) MEETING WHICH TOOK PLACE LATER IN THE SAME DAY, SG CHAIRMAN SEIM RAISED THE SUBJECT OF FOLLOW-UP ACTION TO THE PERMREPS DISCUSSIONS, AND SUGGESTED SEVERAL SUBJECTS WHICH THE STAFF GROUP MIGHT ADDRESS, BEGINNING AT ITS NEXT MEETING ON 11 FEBRUARY. AS A RESULT, RUMSFELD TOLD SYG LUNS AND ASYG HUMPHREYS TODAY THAT HE HAD NOT AGREED TO ANY ACTION BEING TAKEN IN THE STAFF GROUP AND DID NOT WANT THE STAFF GROUP TO GET INTO DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF THIS SUBJECT UNLESS AND UNTIL HE HAD DISCUSSED IT WITH LUNS. WE NOW UNDERSTAND THAT THE IS WILL TAKE NO FURTHER INITIATIVE ON THIS MATTER IN THE SG. HOWEVER, WE CANNOT, OF COURSE, PREVENT ALLIES FROM RAISING IT IN THAT FORUM. THEREFORE, FOR PRESENT I PROPOSE TO ADOPT AN APPROACH OF SIMPLY LISTENING TO REACTIONS AND QUESTIONS WHICH THE ALLIES EXPRESS IN THE STAFF GROUP, WITH THE AIM OF REPORTING THESE TO ASSIST WASHINGTON IN CONSIDERING POSSIBLE FURTHER CONSULTATIVE STEPS AT A TIME WHICH THE U.S. CONSIDERS PROPER.

ACTION REQUESTED: I WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON ANY FURTHER CONSULTATIVE STEPS ENVISIONED ON THIS MATTER.

2. AT 4 FEBRUARY 1974 NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) MEETING, SG CHAIRMAN (SEIM) DISCUSSED PROSPECTIVE FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO NPG PERM REPS DISCUSSION OF MODIFICATIONS TO U.S. STRATEGIC POLICY (REF (A)). HE SAID (ERRONEOUSLY) THAT NPG PERMREPS CONCLUDED THAT THE SG SHOULD EXAMINE THIS SUBJECT. HE SUGGESTED THAT SG MIGHT WISH (1) TO EXAMINE POINTS MADE BY AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD,
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(2) REVIEW QUESTIONS RAISED BY OTHER NPG PERMREPS,
(3) EXAMINE IMPACT OF THE NEW U.S. POLICY ON PLANNING ACTIVITIES OF THE MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS (MNC'S). HE NOTED THAT THE U.S. EXPECTED THAT THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE DISCUSSED IN MORE DETAIL BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AT THE NEXT NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING, AND SAID THAT SG SHOULD LOOK AT ACTIONS THAT PERM REPS MIGHT TAKE IN ANTICIPATION OF MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. SG CHAIRMAN PROPOSED TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS ON THESE POINTS AT NEXT SG MEETING ON 11 FEBRUARY. DUTCH REP (COL. VAN VALDEREN) SAID THAT TWO MAIN QUESTIONS EMERGED FROM PERM REPS DISCUSSION THAT WOULD MERIT FURTHER REVIEW:
(1) IMPACT OF LIMITED STRATEGIC OPTIONS ON PLANNING ACTIVITIES OF THE MNC'S; AND (2) SOVIET PERCEPTION OF THE NEW

POLICY. CANADIAN REP (BECKETT) RAISED QUESTION OF POSSIBLE REVISIONS TO DPC GUIDANCE FOR THE ROLE OF THEATER NUCLEAR STRIKE FORCES (DPC/D(70)59) IN LIGHT OF THE NEW U.S. POLICY. SG CHAIRMAN RECALLED THE PROCEDURE FOLLOWED IN REVISING DPC(D)70/59 IN LIGHT OF THE INTRODUCTION OF POSEIDON, AND SUGGESTED THAT A SIMILAR PROCEDURE MAY BE APPROPRIATE IN THIS CASE. U.S. REP (WOODWORTH) CAUTIONED THAT MODIFICATIONS IN U.S. TARGET PLANS WERE ONLY IN THE EARLY STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT, AND SAID THAT IT IS PREMATURE TO GET TOO FAR INTO IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO PLANNING. HE SAID U.S. WELCOMED ALLIED VIEWS ON FURTHER CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. HE NOTED STANDARD PRACTICE OF KEEPING NPG DISCUSSIONS OF SENSITIVE SUBJECTS ON A CLOSE-HOLD BASIS.

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3. SG INITIATED DISCUSSION OF DRAFT PERM REPS REPORT SETTING FORTH ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NPG STUDY OF IMPLICATIONS OF NEW WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY (REF (B)). U.S. REP (WOODWORTH) SAID THAT WASHINGTON HAD NOT HAD TIME TO COMMENT ON THE DRAFT SINCE IT WAS CIRCULATED ONLY LATE LAST WEEK. HE NOTED THAT

IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR THE REPORT TO COINCIDE WITH WASHINGTON PLANNING FOR THE STUDY. YE REQUESTED THE SG, THEREFORE, TO DEFER MAKING SPECIFIC REVIEWS TO THE DRAFT UNTIL THE 11 FEBRUARY SG MEETING, BY WHICH TIME HE EXPECTED TO HAVE WASHINGTON COMMENTS. THE SG
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AGREED. THE NORWEGIAN AND GREEK REPS, NOTING THE LARGE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS LISTED IN PARA. 7 OF THE DRAFT REPORT, ASKED WHETHER THEY MIGHT ALSO JOIN THE AD HOC STUDY GROUP IF THEIR AUTHORITIES RECONSIDERED THEIR EARLIER DECISION NOT TO PARTICIPATE. SG CHAIRMAN (SEIM) SAID THAT THAT WOULD APPEAR POSSIBLE.

4. THE SG DISCUSSED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DRAFT PERM REPS REPORT AND THE PAPER WHICH THE U.S., AS STUDY LEADER, WILL CIRCULATE GIVING ITS VIEWS ON ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF THE STUDY. U.S. REP, BACKED BY SYG CHAIRMAN, SAID THE TWO PAPERS ARE SEPARATE. THE PERM REPS REPORT IS AN AUTHORIZING DOCUMENT SETTING OUT THE BROAD FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY. THE U.S. PAPER, AND ANY MODIFICATIONS TO IT BASED ON COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS OF STUDY GROUP PARTICIPANTS, WOULD BE A STUDY GROUP WORKING PAPER, WHICH WOULD BE FLUID IN NATURE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS WORK PROGRESSED. U.S. REP STRESSED THAT, ONCE THE PERM REPS REPORT WAS COMPLETED, FURTHER WORK WOULD BE DONE IN THE FORUM OF THE AD HOC STUDY GROUP, AND NOT THE STAFF GROUP. FRG, UK, AND ITALIAN REPS SAID THEY HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT INCLUDING THE AMOUNT OF DETAIL THAT IS IN PARA. 5 OF THE DRAFT PERM REPS REPORT. COMMENT: WE AGREE THAT THE "FACTORS" LISTED IN PARA. 5 OF THE DRAFT ARE NOT NECESSARY IN A PERM REPS REPORT AND COULD BE DELETED. ALSO, WE BELIEVE THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA. 6 POSES UNDERSIRABLE CONSTRAINTS, AND SHOULD BE DELETED. END COMMENT.

5. SYG CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THE NPG PERM REPS, IN THEIR 4 FEBRUARY 1974 MEETING, AGREED ON THE DATES OF 11-12 JUNE 1974 FOR THE SPRING NPG MEETING, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE U.S., WHICH UNDERTOOK TO SEEK CONFIRMATION OF THOSE DATES FROM WASHINGTON (REF (C)).

6. U.S. REP REPORTED TO THE SG ON THE PHASE II STUDY TEAM MEETING IN LONDON DURING WEEK OF 21 JANUARY. AT SG REQUEST, U.S. REP AGREED TO CIRCULATE HIS TALKING POINTS. MISSION WILL PROVIDE TALKING POINTS SEPTEL.
RUMSFELD

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